AMERICAN FRUITS AND MARKET IN THE PROPERTY AND THE PROPER

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MAY, 1904

No. 2

An International Business Journal

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Fruit Growers Nurserymen
Shippers Package Makers
Seedsmen Implement Men

Commission Merchants Fruit Product Dealers Preserving Companies Transportation Companies Manufacturers of Fertilizers Dealers in Horticultural Supplies



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Vol. I

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MAY, 1904

No. 2

WHAT POMOLOGY NEEDS.

Vital Questions for the Fruit Grower--More Light on Cross-pollination -- Methodical and Persistent Selection in the Breeding of Our Nursery Trees.

HON. E. L. SMITH, HOOD RIVER, ORE.

We want more light on this matter of crosspollination. The literature on the subject is sadly deficient, so far as practical orcharding is concerned. Fletcher has written briefly, and we know that the Spitzenburg, Winesap, Bellflower, etc., among the apples, and the Dutchess, Bartlett, Clapp's Favorite, Winter Nellis, among the pears, are practically selfsterile.

But where shall I find a record of the simultaneous blossoming of trees, for pollination is impossible unless stamens and pistils mature at the same time? What shall I plant to fertilize my Spitzenburgs? I grow Newtown pippins, but they blossom later than the Spitzenburg. I have Baldwins rich in pollen, but they bear fruit in alternate years and would therefore pollinize my Spitzenburgs only every second year. I might take Ben Davis, but I seek to grow apples of higher quality, and will have none of it. We need light, more light on this important subject.

The second necessity of pomology is methodical and persistent selection in the breeding of our nursery trees. Taking the apple as a type, we find countless varieties producing fruit of every conceivable size, color, taste, and season of ripening. Many of the old varieties are disappearing and only those of greatest merit have survived. Our Newtowns, Spitzenburgs, Bellflowers, and Russets were yielding their precious harvests more than a hundred years ago. What care have the children of this noble ancestry received as they came down to us through successive generations?

Has there been a careful selection of buds and scions from trees of greatest vigor and well-known productiveness to be grown on stocks of like health and vigor? We are all aware of the variableness of trees of the same variety. I walk along my rows of Newtown pippins, that king of apples, and here and there I find a tree bearing undersized, colorless acid fruit fit only for the vinegar vat.

Experience has demonstrated that cions cut from such trees will also bear inferior fruit, and that parentage is just as important in the vegetable as in the animal kingdom. What grower marks his trees that for successive years have borne his choicest fruit that scions may be cut from them alone?

Who does not know that cuttings are taken indiscriminately from trees bearing good, poor, and indifferent fruit, and that the process has been going on for generations? And what shall we say of our seedlings or stocks that are to grow these buds and cions for our future orchards?

Did we select the seeds from the fruit of hardy, healthy trees, or did we wash them out from the pomace that came from the cider press? And pray what kind of fruit do we take to the cider mill? Do we not all know that it is the colorless, undersized, unsalable



HON. E. L. SMITH, HOOD RIVER, ORE.

PRESIDENT NORTHWEST FRUIT GROWERS'

ASSOCIATION.

fruit that goes there, and yet we breed our trees on stocks grown from the seeds of this miserable trash? If the owners of our flocks and herds paid as little attention to parentage as we fruit men do, would they not have a mongrel lot? I believe in this manner: We have impaired the constitution of many of our best varieties and to get best results must topwork them on trees of greater vigor.

According to information received from Cuba the pineapple crop there will be about 300,000 crates, but it is better than last year, and the fruit will be of larger size. Cultivation has improved the keeping qualities measurably, and experts say that it will do so continuously.

Following is a conservative estimate of the acreage of bearing fruit and berries tributary to Lindale, Tex.: Peaches, 1,500; strawberries, 300; blackberries, 200; apples, 200; pears, 100; plums, 150; total, 2,540. At least 75 per cent. of the peaches are of the Elberta variety.

CONSUMER IS THE REFEREE.

If He is Suited He Willingly Foots the Bill-High Grade Growing and Packing Makes Automatic Selling--Methods of the Manufacturer Should be Adopted by the Fruit Grower.

Uniformity of character and condition in each package, and the most complete maturity consistent with marketing, are two prime essentials in satisfying both retailer and consumer. J. H. Hale tells of a high-grade grower and packer whose product was sold in advance of shipment and at an increase of price of from 25 to 75 per cent. above the ordinary market price. The careful and high grading of a product actually eliminated the factor of making a market. The operation resulted in making the selling automatic. It sold itself.

There is no reason why the methods of the manufacturer should not be put into practice by the fruit grower. If a maker ships a dozen corsets or rubber boots or mowing machines to fill an order for No. 1 goods, says Mr. Hale, he does not work in one or two more seconds. The shipment is as near uniform as possible, and every factory has inspectors who watch every process of manufacture. If by chance a second-rate machine or garment gets into a first-class consignment, the consignee ships it back by first train and gets what he orders and pays for. Fruit growers are more or less in the practice of trying to get as much of second-class goods into first-class grades as they think the traffic will bear. They have as a class always done this. It would be suicidal in a manufacturer, and should be abandoned by the fruit grower.

The consumer pays for everything—the growing, the packing, the freight and the selling. He is the final referee. If he is suited, that is all that is necessary, and experience has settled the fact that when the consumer is pleased, he willingly foots the bill. Of course there is a class for every grade, but the class that demands an extra or No. 1 article is increasing faster than the supply.

The Cotton Belt Development Company has been formed at Dallas, Tex., with a capital of \$500,000 to buy and develop lands along the cotton belt in East Texas; 6,000 acres of fruit lands have been secured already. M. S. Wolfe of Wolfe City is president, and I. K. Stockett, Fort Worth, secretary.

At Orlando, Fla., the State Fruit and Vegetable Shippers' Association of Florida has been organized. Henry Benedict, of the Benedict Pineapple Company, presided.

In the Central States

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY ASSOCIATION.

Sixth Annual Meeting at Quincy, III.--Apple and Pear Prospects Good--Cherries and Pcaches Doubtful--Utilizing Orchard Space--S. N. Black President, James Handly Secretary.

IAMES HANDLY, QUINCY, ILL.

The sixth annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Apple Growers Association, held in Chamber of Commerce rooms, Quincy, Ill., was largely attended and was made instructive and interesting by many attractive features. Reports from different states, covered by the district in the Mississippi Valley, were very encouraging as to the outlook for a good crop of apples during the coming season. All of the old orchardists said that prospects never were better. There is also a great confidence in the outlook for pears, but cherries and peaches are doubtful propositions.

Many apple growers regretted that they were not able to make better and larger contributions of last year's crop for the World's Fair to be held in St. Louis this year, but they truly said they could not give what they did not possess. With the bright outlook for this year, however, they no doubt will make very generous contributions from crops of both summer and fall apples.

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION.

A committee consisting of Henry Clay Cupp of Fall Creek, C. H. Williamson of Quincy, and ex-Senator G. W. Dean of Burton, were appointed as a special committee to work with state legislators along the lines of securing better protection for the work of horticulturists, especially in regard to enactment of laws relating to the extermination of orchard pests.

S. N. Black, of Clayton, was re-elected president, and James Handly, of Quincy, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

The twenty-five vice-presidents of the association were also retained in the positions held last year.

Prof. E. C. Green, of College Station, Tex., who is a member of the association, furnished a timely paper on "Apple Orchard and Hogs." He referred to the fact that many "plungers" and "get-rich-quick" men are inclined to plant peach trees on account of the promise of getting quicker returns for investments. He truly said that if one had to wait longer for the growth of an apple orchard there was a satisfaction in knowing there was something to wait for. He believed that during the first four or five years of the life of an orchard good money could be made by growing hogs and utilizing the space between the trees, and, therefore, it would pay to raise grain on the space referred to and then keep a good number of hogs to consume the product. Cultivation of the ground is good, but the average farmer cannot afford to cultivate the ground simply for his health. With good management ten acres of orchard less than six years old would produce enough forage to grow 80 head of hogs each year.

INTENSIVE ORCHARDING.

This is intensive orcharding and it is intensely practical. He recommended the planting of corn in the spring, rye in the fall for a cover crop, and at the proper seasons Canada peas, rape, sorghum, cow peas and Spanish peanuts. By following these methods on a ro-acre orchard the land can be fairly cultivated, well fertilized, and made to produce pork at less than two and one-half cents per pound and make \$300 per year on the venture.

H. A. Aldrich, of Neoga, Ill., supplied a paper on "A Few Suggestions for the Orchard." He, too, made a strong argument in favor of having a large drove of hogs growing as valuable accompaniment. He admitted that there was much to be said for and against the proposition; but, after all, the success depended more upon the man than on the hog, as there were times when the hogs should not be allowed to run in the orchard, and again there were occasions when they would be helpful if given a free course on the premises. He urged the banking up of young trees and of numerous little attentions that seemed small in themselves but were great in producing satisfactory results.

In speaking of the choice for the best variety for a commercial apple, he was very pronounced in giving his favorable opinions of the Ben Davls. This apple has been the salvation of the farmer in the parts of Illinois where all eastern varieties of the apple had failed, and where constant cropping and ravages of the chinch bug had shut off the growth of wheat. In such instances the Ben Davis apple came with most timely force in helping the farmer, lifting his mortgages, and in giving prosperity that was conducive to the comfort and happiness of many homes.

MISSOURI STRAWBERRY INTERESTS.

Prof. W. L. Howard of the University of Missouri predicts that Missouri will lead in strawberry growing in a few years, as soon as the new plants are old enough to bear.

"The whole of Southwest Missouri," said Prof. Howard, "is dotted with strawberry fields from 5 to 100 acres each. However, experience has proven that except when grown for local trade, strawberries cannot be profitably grown except in large quantities and shipped in carload lots. When shipped by express

the express companies get all the profits. In Southwest Missouri the berries are sold on the car. Agents of fruit houses remain in the berry region during the fruiting season and purchase the berries after the cars are loaded. In this way the grower is relieved of the trouble of shipping and does not run the risk of damage during transportation."

APPLE GROWING IN MINNESOTA.

While seedlings of pyrus baccata have proved most resistant to root killing in Minnesota orcharding, they are not entirely adapted to all varieties of cultivated apples. Hybrid crabs at present form the most promising source for hardy stock. For the severest locations in Minnesota and Manitoba it is believed to be a good plan to grow hybrid crabs and have them grafted on pure pyrus baccata. Root-grafted trees are believed to be more hardy than top-grafted. In light, dry soils it is recommended that the trees be planted 12 inches deeper than they naturally grow in the nursery. On steep hillsides they should be planted deeper yet, in some instances being set as deep as 20 inches or more, for the purpose of affording protection to the roots.

COLD STORAGE IN IOWA.

The Iowa experiment station has learned by tests that McMahon White, Northern Spy, Pewaukee, Roman Stem, Seek-No-Further, White Pippin and Wolf River apples are not suitable for storing because of poor-keeping qualities. On the other hand, such varieties as Ben Davis, Wells, Janet, Romanite, Willow Twig, Fameuse and Wealthy keep especially well in storage. Wealthy and Fameuse are hardy throughout the state, productive and of excellent quality. Few late varieties of apples do well in Iowa.

ORCHARD PLANTING IN ILLINOIS.

DIXON, ILL., April 15.—Many family and small commercial orchards are being set in this locality. The question of hardiness in varieties is of primary importance. The Northwestern Greening, of Wisconsin origin, is among the new apples very promising. A heavy deposit of ice on trees January 20th, which remained for several weeks, killed all the Richmond buds. There were several days of zero weather during the time the ice was adhering to the branches.

The Rockford and Honduras Plantation Company has been incorporated by Jesse Dimond, W. H. Marshall and H. S. Crouse, of Rockford, Ill., with a capital of \$300,000, to raise tropical fruits.



Transportation Matters



SANTA FE'S OPPORTUNITY.

Competes For Transportation of Fresh Deciduous Fruit from the Sacramento Valley to the East--Has Through Line to Chicago--Refrigeration Charges.

The Santa Fe has come into competition with the Southern Pacific this season for the transportation of fresh deciduous fruit from the Sacramento Valley to the East. It will have a line of steamships on the Sacramento River, taking fruit from various points, and at Antioch, on Suisun Bay, transferring it to the company's cars for direct through shipment. The Santa Fe has the advantage of owning a through line to Chicago, while the Southern Pacific must transfer its cars or fruit trains to other connecting lines from the Missouri River.

For years past says a special despatch to the New York Commercial from Sacramento, there has been great complaint from growers and shippers in the northern and central parts of California of delays in transit of fresh fruit, and though it is all carried in refrigerator cars much of it arrives in bad condition, owing to long time on the road. The schedule of six days to Chicago and nine to New York often has been promised but has never been realized. Last year the service was worse even than the year before. Fruit commonly was 10 days on the road to Chicago and 14 to New York, while in some instances cars did not reach the latter destination under 18 or 19 days. The excuse made for delays was inability to get sufficient locomotives and the congested condftion of general traffic last season.

The refrigerator cars used on the Southern Pacific are owned by Armour, and high rates are charged for refrigeration. They are operated by two private car line companies under Armour's control, who gets mileage from the railroads in addition to the heavy charges for refrigeration exacted from the shippers.

The Santa Fe has its own line of refrigerator cars, but its rates for refrigeration are, substantially, the same as those of the Armour lines. Refrigeration charges are in addition to the regular freight rate on deciduous fruit, which is \$1.25 per 100 pounds to most eastern points, for carload lots of not less than 12 tons, while to New York and other seaboard points, it is \$1.50. The flat rate on oranges to the East is \$1.25 per 100 to all points, but the deciduous fruit growers feel they are as much entitled to a reduction as are the orange growers of Southern California, who are clamoring for a rate of \$1.00 per 100 pounds. This the roads have refused to grant, after an extended conference in Los Angeles.

EXTRA CARE PAID WELL.

John Brown, inspector at Glasgow for the Dominion Department of Agriculture, reports to the fruit division at Ottawa, Ont., that a shipment of 1,422 cases of apples from a Burlington, Ontario, packer was landed at that port recently. This parcel consisted entirely of XXX Spies; all the apples were wrapped in paper and graded in size from 21/2 inches upwards; the fruit was in splendid condition and the extra trouble and care bestowed on the apples would well repay the shippers. The large sized fruit realized from 7s to 7s 6d (small cases holding only about 35 lbs.) the smaller fruits 6s 6d. Another shipment by the same boat consisted of 416 barrels and 401 cases. These were nearly all Spies and were very much frosted and wasty. They were improperly packed.

REFRIGERATING FRUIT.

The experiment of the United Fruit Company, to determine whether bananas from the tropics may be kept in refrigeration for ten days while en voyage, has proven successful. The Venus from Port Limon, bearing a cargo of 26,000 bunches of bananas, was kept in midstream in the harbor in New Orleans. On the tenth day, after the cold air had kept them from ripening, the steamer was unloaded, and the bananas were found to be in as good condition as when they left Port Limon.

The apparatus is to be perfected, and it is expected that it will be gradually used on all of the ships taking a long voyage. Instead of ten days, when necessary, machinery will keep the fruit from ripening for from twenty to twenty-five days.

PERE MARQUETTE ROAD'S FA-CILITIES.

Refrigeration the coming season is to be a feature of the Pere Marquette railroad, and the interests of Michigan growers and shippers are to be cared for. The Pere Marquette has effected an entrance into Chicago over its own rails and has provided suitable conveniences in commodious yards for handling the fruit business, which is a very important factor in the traffic of this road.

UNITED FRUIT CO.'S NEW STEAMER.

The Hippolyte Dumois, a comparatively new steamer, made her initial appearance at Boston on April 4th with 21,700 bunches of bananas, the largest shipment ever brought from the new plantations of the United Fruit Company at San Domingo.

DEVELOPING SOUTHERN TRACTS.

Southern Railway's Representative Establishes Branch Offices in South Carolina --Seeking Land Sultable for Fruit Growing--Augusta Southern Territory.

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 20.—Special Land and Industrial Agent Stewart of the Southern railway, who has recently established a branch office in this city to develop the Southern's territory in this state in conjunction with the company's central land and industrial department under M. V. Richards at Washington, is rapidly becoming acquainted with his new field and expects to be able to accomplish material results in the near future. He has recently been devoting his attention to the Augusta Southern territory, a strip of country extending south from Augusta 84 miles to Tennille, Ga. In a short time he will devote his entire time to this state.

Mr. Stewart reports that a northern concern has sought the assistance of his department to find a tract of land containing between 500 and 1,000 acres suitable to truck farming and fruit growing, and that the concern wants to locate near a city like Columbia, which will furnish a good home market and afford ample railroad facilities for handling quick shipments to the North and West.

NEW VENTURE FOR PORTO RICO.

The New York and Porto Rico line steamship Mae has sailed for Mayaguez with a cargo of tin cans which will be used in canning the pine apple crop of the island. This is an entirely new venture for Porto Rico. The fruit is said not to stand shipping well and so it is to be canned. Enormous quantities of canned pineapple arrive here from the East Indies, so there should be no trouble with the Porto Rico fruit.

When orange growing was first tried trees were imported from Florida, and the fruit proved to be tender. Now the growers graft Florida grown scions on native stocks and the result is a much hardier fruit. These are some of the difficulties that time and experience will overcome; each year promises to be a brighter one for the planters of Porto Rico.

STRAWBERRIES IN PORTO RICO.

James Struthers, an American orange grower of the Bayamon district, Porto Rico, has begun the growing on an extensive scale of the Lady Thompson strawberry, a popular variety in the eastern portion of North Carolina. He produces large fruit 60 days from planting.



From Western Points



SOUTHERN MISSOURI TREES.

Experiment Station Undertakes to Procure Valuable Statistics -- Six Counties Have Been Mapped--Fruit Business Emerging from the Experimental Stage.

An effort is being made at the Missouri Fruit Experiment Station, at Mountain Grove, under the direction of Frank Horsfall, assistant horticulturist, to compile a list of the commercial orchards of South Missouri, showing location, acreage, varieties, character of soil, method of culture and general conditions. In obtaining this information a representative of the station first visits the orchard and after this the record will be continued from year to year by circular letters to the growers asking for information as to the extent of planting. varieties, etc. The territory covered thus far is from Springfield to Thayer, along the line of the Frisco road, and is included in the counties of Greene, Webster, Wright, Texas, Howell and Oregon. The commercial orchards are within four miles of the railroad. In the six counties, 348 orchards were visited, representing 11,107 acres of apples of bearing age, and 1,613 acres yet to fruit; 5,491 acres of peaches in bearing, and 1,232 acres that have not vet fruited.

"It is impossible," says Mr. Horsfall, "to give the exact amount of each variety on account of so many orchards being badly mixed, but the following classification will give some idea of their relative amounts:

"APPLES—Ben Davis, 60 per cent.; Jonathan, 7 per cent.; Gano, 4 per cent.; Ingram, 3 per cent.; Winesap, 3 per cent.; Missouri Pippin, 2 per cent.; York Imperial, 2 per cent.; Grimes' Golden, 1 per cent.; other varieties, 18 per cent.

"Peaches—Elberta, 95 per cent.; Salway, 1 per cent.; Family Favorite, 1 per cent.; other varieties, 3 per cent.

"As a rule the general condition of the commercial orchards is not what we would like to see, but when we take into consideration the age of the country as a fruit section and think of the many disadvantages under which the orchardists have labored, this condition is easily explained. The first plantings were necessarily made with no knowledge as to the adaptability of the varieties to the soil and general conditions, and in this way a great many varieties were planted that have proven themselves to be entirely worthless as commercial varieties. There being no local nurseries, the grower had to depend on foreign stock for planting, and in a good many cases this proved to be very unsatisfactory, as substitutions were made and the varieties were badly mixed.

"It might be said that the fruit business in

South Missouri is just now emerging from the experimental stage, and while some of the orchards probably have been a failure as commercial orchards, yet they are valuable as object lessons, and their ragged appearance should not now influence us against the planting of tested varieties on soils and under conditions that we have found congenial to their perfect development."

In the six counties named there are 12,720 acres of apple trees, 6,723 acres of peach trees, 265 of pears, 48 of plums, 162 of grapes, 240 of strawberries and 57 of blackberries. The town of Seymour, Webster county, has 2,805 acres of apple trees, Cedar Gap has 1,074, Olden 1,632, Mountain Grove 708, Pomona 739 and Burnham 777.



PROF. J. T. STINSON, POMOLOGIST LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXPOSITION

WESTERN NOTES.

Arkansas fruit growers associations were seeking berry pickers by the thousands early last month.

H. A. Davis, Fayetteville, Ark., has 600 acres of strawberries, 15 acres red raspberries, 45 acres blackberries, 30 acres black raspberries. E. L. Nettleship has 54 acres and L. N. Duncan 35 acres strawberries. The strawberry crop will be ready May 4th.

P. M. Kiely, of St. Louis, suggests a permanent organization of the Apple Consumers' League at the World's Fair, and the suggestion is endorsed by H. W. Collingwood, of New York, who is probably the original charter member.

The pear orchard of Ramey Bros., comprising ten acres of land, on which are 1,600 bearing pear trees, was sold recently to J. F. Goff, of Pueblo, a retired veterinary surgeon, for \$750 an acre. Pears to the value of \$2,500 were shipped from this orchard last season.

Leading fruit growers and shippers near Bentonville, Ark., are J. B. Lawton, secretary Benton County Horticultural Society; Captain George T. Lincoln, William R. Ford, W. W. Jenkins, Harley Mason, H. D. Hobbs, H. A. Lenkins, C. J. Eld, G. A. Davis. J. D. Byler, Asa Hays and George Woolsey, secretary of Fruit Shippers Association.

WORLD'S FAIR OPEN.

Palace of Horticulture Ready at the Outset
With Its Exhibit from Cold Storage on a
Scale Never Before Attempted-All Sections Represented.

The Louisiana Purchase Exposition was opened on April 30th. It will continue until December 1st. During the seven months of its existence one of the most notable of the attractions will be the Palace of Horticulture, where exhibits of fruits will be made on a scale never before attempted.

The Palace of Horticulture contains three exhibit rooms. One of these, 400 feet square, is to be devoted to the exhibit of fresh fruits; the conservatory, more than 200 feet square, to flowers and decorative plants, and another room of equal size to the display of implements, and, at various times, to cut flowers and flowering plant displays.

The wonderful and far-reaching effect of cold storage in the handling of fruits will be fully brought out by reason of the fact that there is now available of the crop of 1903 a supply of apples sufficient to maintain the exhibit until fresh fruit comes in sufficient quantities to cover the tables. Twenty-five carloads of apples alone have been provided, and are now in cold storage, so that these plans may be fully carried out.

No exposition up to this time has ever been adquately recorded so far as the exhibits of agriculture and horticulture are concerned. At St. Louis particular attention will be paid to this work so that results of great effort may be preserved-

The artistic installation of the apple exhibits has a striking feature never before carried out at any exposition, in that all exhibitors are compelled to use plaques of the same color and design. Thus a harmonious effect is produced and the eye of the visitor is not startled by incongruous combinations of colored china and wooden plaques. The official plaque adopted by Chief Taylor is an artistic example of the modern art of the potter. The center is white, bearing the exposition monogram, L. P. E., in apple green color, and the outer portion of the top is a broad band of apple green, with the perimeter gilt-edged.

Ten years ago there were less than 3,000 acres of orchard lands under cultivation in Idaho; now there are more than 40,000 acres. The result is largely due to the work of the state horticultural society.

E. F. Stephens of Crete, Neb., says regarding fruit prospects: "The eastern half of Nebraska will have perhaps a half a crop. In Central and Western Nebraska, careful examination shows fruit buds of twenty-five leading varieties of peaches to be in perfect condition. From Kenesaw, 165 miles west of Omaha, to Julesburg, Col., 210 miles further west, we find peach buds perfectly sound and promising a full crop."

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Eastern Growers and Dealers

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FRUIT GROWING IN MARYLAND,

One of the Principal Industries and Profitable
--Peach Lands Acquired at Low Rate
Produce Large Returns--Kieffer
Pears and Apples.

ORLANDO HARRISON, BERLIN, MD.

Growing fruit in Maryland is one of the principal industries, and, it may be truthfully said, one of the most profitable. On the eastern shore, bordering on the water's edge, are some of the most valuable peach orchards, especially in Kent county, orchards ranging from 500 to 5,000 trees. Some growers owning several small farms have as many as fifty thousand peach trees, but none of them plant solid farms as they did twenty years ago. They prefer to plant, say one-fourth or one-half of their farms, as they have found by not planting in hundreds of acres in one block they have less disease and less risk.

The climate is a most delightful one, and being near the sea shore, winter is made milder by the ocean air. The bays afford fish of various kinds of great value to the community and a source of pleasure to the sportsman who spends many months during the year fishing, boating and shooting wild ducks and geese on the bays, and quail and rabbit on the uplands.

A most delightful sail is from Ocean City to Chincoteague, Va. Bordering on the bay are some of the most valuable farms for one seeking rest, and these farms can be bought at a very reasonable price.

The Chinese strain of peaches is planted principally in Maryland's peach districts and has proved to be far the most profitable. The trees are thrifty, bear early and are very productive and give quick returns to the planter. Many of the best growers get returns from their orchards the third and fourth year.

The live, up-to-date orchardist will find there was never a better time than now for planting a commercial orchard of peaches in Maryland.

The growing of Keiffer pears has been a profitable business. They bear freely. Some seasons they are sold at a good price, others not so good, but averaging a good paying fruit per acre.

On the western shore of Maryland conditions of growing fruit are quite different. In the mountain sections of Washington county, with an elevation of 1,100 to 1,600 feet above sea level, at some points, the Bilyeau peach grows, bears and colors well late in September and October and demands good prices. The Salway is one of their most valuable varieties and grows to perfection. Other standard varieties are Smock, Geary's Wonderful, Picket's Late, Eagle's Mammoth, Crawford Late, Fox Seedling, Stephen's Rareripe, Old Mixon, Stump, Mt. Ree.

The orchards are principally grown in new land that does not cost more than from three to ten dollars per acre, which after being cleared makes the best peach land. I know of one orchard company that bought land of that kind on the West Virginia side, and we furnished the trees, that paid a dividend last fall of 45 per cent. and kept an amount about equivalent to one-tenth of the capital stock for a working fund to pay expenses till another crop is on. Isn't that a profitable business? It is better than bank stock, and receipts are sure to come if the right man has his eye on the trees and keeps the business going in a business way.

Growing apples in Western Maryland seems to be natural, as wild seedlings sprout up in fence corners and show marked success of what a seedling will do naturally.



ORLANDO HARRISON, BERLIN, MD.

There are being planted in Washington county apple trees on some of the choicest apple land the sun ever shone over; rich loam with red clay subsoil and many other soils that I am not familiar with, but they grow fine apples and heavy crops of timothy hay. This rich soil will produce more apples per acre, especially York Imperial and Grimes Golden, than any land I have ever seen planted. The quality of the apples is good. The apple trees come into bearing about the sixth to seventh year, and some York Imperials gave three bushels per tree last season at seven years old. This land, cleared ready to plant in orchards, can be bought from \$35 to \$50 per acre, with improvements.

I know of nothing that promises a better revenue than the orchard business. If you select the man, select your location, select the right soil, select your trees carefully, plant, cultivate and prune—you will surely reap.

RETAINING APPLE FLAVOR.

Veteran Horticulturist Outlines Plan for Keeping Fruit Indefinitely Better Than By Cold Storage Process--For Many Years a Pomological Society Officer.

G. F. B. LEIGHTON, ALFRED, ME.

Last fall I became firmly impressed that apples could be kept sound for an indefinite period, with a probability that the flavor would be retained. The failure of the apple crop in this town prevented my testing. I wrote to a friend in another town, but sickness prevented his testing the experiment.

My suggestion was to place a tight barrel in a cellar, or where frost could not reach it; remove one head, fill the barrel three-fourths with apples, reduce the head on opposite side slightly, put a rock upon the head, fill the barrel with water and keep it full. Sample in April and if the flavor is all right commence their use in June. By grappling the apples from the barrel as they are used they will probably keep sound a few days out of the water. If the flavor is fully retained it will be a boon to orchardists.

Cold storage will keep the fruit sound, but by the first of June it extracts the flavor to an extent that lessens the value of the apple.

I am in my 88th year. I spent 20 years in the Carolinas. In 1866 I located at Norfolk, Va. In 1867 I was made president of the Norfolk Horticultural and Pomological Society, and served 28 years, during which time I was for sixteen years the vice-president for Virginia of the American Pomological Society. I returned last summer to this my native place.

EASTERN NOTES.

Ordinarily New York State produces 14 per cent. of the national yield of apples; last year it produced 19 per cent. The crop of 1903 in the United States was 212,000,000 bushels.

L. J. Farmer, Pulaski, N. Y., suggests the importation of negro labor from the South to solve the problem before the northern farmer and fruit grower. Others have suggested Italian help.

Arthur Griffin, gardener to Elbridge T. Gerry, Newport, R. I., is one of the few successful growers of melons in the United States in the winter season. He grows the fruit in a melon house and ships from 400 to 600 melons to New York city between December and April.

Figures for 1903 show that New York city is still the largest market for California fruit products, shipments to the amount of 1,680½ carloads of fresh deciduous fruits being made last year to the metropolis. Chicago comes next with 1,256 carloads, Boston 856. Shipments of pears fell off 300 cars. Peaches made a slight gain over the preceding year, but are still below the banner year of 1899, when 2,625 cars went forward. Grapes made a marked increa 2e.

AMERICAN FRUITS.

An international monthly journal for growers and dealers in fruits of all kinds, linking the producer with the consumer, circulating throughout the United States and Canada and in foreign countries, and covering every branch of the industry.

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Fruits Publishing Company RALPH T. OLCOTT, E. J. SEAGER

The only international publication of the Kind.

A business journal for business men.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One year, in advanc	e,				\$1.00
To Foreign Countries, in advance,				1.50	
Single Copies,					.10

Advertising rates will be sent upon application. Advertisements*should reach this office by the 15th of the month previous to date of publication, to ensure best location.

Drafts on New York, or postal orders, instead of checks, are requested.

checks, are requested.

Correspondence from all points and articles of interest to growers and dealers in fruits of all kinds are solicited.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MAY, 1904.

FRUIT ASSOCIATIONS.

American Pomological Society—President, J. H. Hale, South Glastonbury, Ct.; secretary, John Craig, Ithaca, N. Y. International Apple Shippers Association—President, C. H. Weaver, Chicago, Ill.; secretary, A. Warren Pabb, Reyton, Mass.

Patch, Boston, Mass.

National League of Commission Merchants

President, Charles B. Ayres, Chicago; secretary, A. Warren
Patch, Boston, Mass.

Northwest Fruit Growers Association—President, E. L. Smith, Hood River, Ore.; secretary, C. J. Linsel, Boise, Idaho.

Mississippi Valley Apple Growers Association-President, S. N. Black, Clayton, Ill.; secretary, James Handly, Quincy, 11.

American Cranberry Growers Association—President, Rev. E. H. Durell, Woodbury, N. J.; secretary, A. J. Rider, Philadelphia, Pa.

American Association of Nurserymen—President, N. W. Hale, Knoxville, Tenn.; secretary, George C. Seager, Rochester, N. Y.

Fruit Growers Association of Ontario—President, W. H. Bunting, St. Cathern es. Ont.; secretary, G. C. Creelent, W. H. St. Cathern es. Ont.; secretary, G. C. Creelent, W. H. St. Cathern es. Ont.; secretary, G. C. Creelent, W. H. St. Cathern es. Ont.; secretary, G. C. Creelent, W. St. Cathern es. Ont.; secretary

man, Toronto.

Fruit Travelers Association—President, N. E. Hansfield, Pittsburg, Pa.; secretary-treasurer, A. S. Teasdale, St.

Louis, Mo.

Nova Scotia Fruit Growers Association—
President, P. Innes, Coldbrook, N. S.; secretary, S. C. Parker,
Rerwick N. S.

Berwick, N. S.

American Apple Growers Congress—President

H. M. Dunlap, Savoy, Ill.; secretary, T. C. Wilson, Hamibal, Mo

Fruit Travelers Association—President, H. E.

Mansfield, Pittsburg, Pa.; secretary-treasurer, A. S. Teasdale, St.

Louis, Mo.

Missouri Valley Horticultural Association

—President, George W. Holsinger, Argentine, Ark.: secretary, H.

E.Chandler, Argentine, Ark.

SEEKING NEW FRUIT LANDS.

Certain sections of the United States are noted for their adaptability to fruit growing. New territory is constantly being opened up. In many cases, however, the extension of fruit growing is an experiment. There has heretofore been lack of definite knowledge as to the entire suitability of a section to the requirements of the product desired.

A long step in the direction of determining doubtful questions along these lines has been taken in the work of the bureau of soils of the United States Department of Agriculture. Samples of soil and sub-soil have been taken and analyzed with most encouraging results. From its surveys the bureau is steadily accumulating a great mass of information about the soils in different parts of the country. In many localities crops are being grown on soils which are not adapted to them. The influence of soil upon the quality of tobacco is so marked that a fine bright tobacco land may be separated by a few feet from one which will produce only a coarse, heavy, inferior leaf.

In the mountain fruit districts of the southern states certain soils are not only adapted to certain fruits, as apples, peaches, grapes, etc., but distinct soils are recognized as best adapted to single varieties of these fruits. An example is the mountain soil (named by the bureau porters black loam) which in Virginia is called "pippin land," because the celebrated Albemarle pippin does better on it than on any other soil. With the present system of classification and knowledge of these mountain soils and their adaptation to different varieties of fruits, the bureau's soil survey parties can enter any of the mountain areas of the eastern states and quickly and accurately distinguish the good fruit lands from the poor. To one who wishes to engage in the fruit-growing industry in these fertile mountain regions this information is an insurance against loss from purchasing poor fruit soil, and means a great saving of time and money by rendering unnecessary any experiments in planting different varieties on different soils.

At the close of 1903 the bureau had mapped 38,663,680 acres. Its reports will be awaited with interest.

SOUTH AFRICAN COMPETITION.

We present in this issue an interesting article by Sampson Morgan, the English fruit expert, on the development of the fruit industry in South Africa. It will be a revelation to many that the Cape Colony fruit trade is so fully advanced. There are indications that this field may prove a lively competitor for America. The fact serves to emphasize the great importance of sending to Great Britain and the Continent only the highest grade of American fruits, and of studying the best methods of transporting the products of American orchards. The enormous trade of California with Great Britain has spurred British growers at the Cape to secure a portion of this patronage. The Cape peninsula is a fruit country. Large portions of the Transvaal have physical features similar to the inland portions of California. There are fine alluvial valleys and mountain terraces in the Lydenburg district in South Africa and on the slopes of the Drakensberg on the Swazi border.

The account of what the South African growers are doing should prove a benefit to American growers in that it may be an incentive for the latter to put forth renewed efforts to retain the European trade.

EASTERN OPPORTUNITY.

The commercial side of the fruit question cannot be too strongly urged upon the attention of fruit growers. The commercial fruit grower should make it his business to find what the market wants, and then he should make every endeavor to supply just what is wanted. California citrus growers seemed to appreciate these facts in advance of others; but there has for some time been a strong effort on the part of eastern fruit growers to adopt similar methods.

It has seemed strange that the strongest competitor of the eastern grower should be 3,000 miles away. In addition to the advantage of the short haul, the eastern grower can watch the market personally and keep in direct touch with the middleman. His nearness to the great markets should give him decided advantages, but he must be as enterprising as his western competitor. There are factors besides nearness of market to favor the eastern grower. In the Middle West trees are short-lived. Fifteen or twenty years is considered the limit in Kansas of an apple tree's usefulness. In the East a tree will produce abundantly for three or four times as long.

J. H. Hale calls attention to the fact that the quantity of fruit grown in the eastern states need not be increased in order to double or treble the receipts. More business-like methods must be employed. Apples from the Pacific coast are selling in New York at 25c. each, \$1.50 per dozen, and at 7c. each per one-bushel box. Pacific coast growers spray all summer, and each apple is sprayed and kept covered with Bordeaux, and when the fruit is ripe each apple is carefully wiped. It looks like a good deal of drudgery to wipe every apple, but the difference between 25 cents each and 25 cents per bushel will pay for a whole lot of wiping. The eastern grower of red raspberries thinks he does wonderfully well if he can ship them 200 miles and have them get there without bruising, but the growers on the Pacific coast ship as far east as St. Paul, and some have even touched Detroit and Buffalo, 2,500 miles from where grown. The raspberries are planted eight feet apart, with hills three feet apart, wires are stretched, and four canes to each hill are allowed to grow and are tied fan-shape to the wire. They yield enormously of extra large berries, each cane having abundance of light and air, and plenty of room for its roots. It pays to take

PROGRESS IN SMALL FRUITS.

There are said to be upwards of 400 varieties of strawberries, 100 of which are of considerable commercial importance; 140 varieties of raspberries, of which there are at least a dozen good red kinds, instead of the one, Red Antwerp, of 30 years ago. Of the black sorts, two or three good ones are added each year, and the authority for these statements predicts that it will not be long before we will have raspberries as large as our largest cultivated blackberries, much sweeter, and with less seeds. Of the 60 varieties of cultivated blackberries, only about 20 find their way to market. The two or three varieties of dewberries of recognized character are very rapidly becoming popular in the market.

PORTLAND, OREGON, FAIR.

At the Lewis and Clark Exposition, to be held at Portland, Oregon, in 1905, it is intended to make a large horticultural display. There will be an exhibit of orchard fruits, small fruits, vines, and nut trees, commonly cultivated in the Pacific Northwest. This display is in charge of E. R. Lake, of the Oregon Agricultural College.

A Few Comments on AMERICAN FRUITS.

SALEM, Ore., April 13.—Oregon Nursery Company: "We have received your first issue of AMERICAN FRUITS, and will say we are very much pleased with the tone of the paper and think you have a splendid field in which to work with this valuable new journal."

SHOULD FILL A LONGFELT WANT.

OTTAWA, Canada, April 18.—Prof. W. T. Macoun, horticulturist, Central Experimental Farm: "Your new paper should fill a longfelt want among fruit growers, and if you maintain a high standard I believe that the undertaking will be very successful."

IT WILL BE A HUMMER.

DIXON, Ill., April 9.—J. L. Hartwell, Vice-president Illinois State Horticultural Society: "Enclosed find 50 cents for American Fruits. If you can keep up the pace of first issue, it will be a 'hummer.'"

LIKELY TO FILL IT WELL.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., April 11.—W. F. Heikes, Manager Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries; "There is a place open for your paper. From the appearance of your first number, I believe you are likely to fill it well."

PREDICTS A SPHERE OF GREAT USEFULNESS.

QUINCY, Ill., April 12.—James Handly, Secretary Mississippi Valley Apple Growers' Association: "A copy of Vol. I., No. I., of American Fruits has been received and I send hearty congratulations on the nice appearance of your paper and predict for it a sphere of great usefulness."

MUCH PLEASED WITH ITS APPEARANCE.

BRIDGEPORT, Ind., April 14.—Albertson & Hobbs: "We received a copy of AMERICAN FRUITS and are very much pleased with its appearance."

GREAT BENEFIT TO GROWERS AND DEALERS.

URBANA, Ill., March 31.—Prof. J. C. Blair, Chief of Horticulture, University of Illinois: "I am sure that a journal of the character to which you refer will be a great benefit to fruit growers and dealers throughout the country. Wish you abundant success in your new enterprise."

WELL ARRANGED AND WELL EDITED.

New Haven, Mo., April 9.—New Haven Nurseries, R. J. Bagby, treasurer: "We are in receipt of a copy of American Fruits. It seems well arranged, well edited, and everything first-class."

PLENTY OF ROOM FOR "AMERICAN FRUITS."

EXPERIMENT, Ga., April 18.—H. N. Starnes, Biologist and Horticulturist, Georgia Experiment Station: "The first issue of your new horticultural publication, American Fruits, is before me, and I congratulate you on the start you have made. There is plenty of room for a good fruit journal in this country, if it is made first-class from the beginning, and kept so; particularly if it will rigidly exclude all humbugs from its advertising columns. Wish you all manner of success."

WANTS IT TO COME REGULARLY.

CHICAGO, April 13.—Armour & Company: "Would like to subscribe to your publication for one year, beginning with the May, 1904, issue. Please have it mailed regularly."

SURELY CHEAP AT THE MONEY.

BUFFALO, N. Y., April 14.—Tropical Development Company, H. S. Risley: "We all found American Fruits very interesting, and on the appearance and matter offer congratulations. We enclose subscription price; put us on the list. It is surely cheap at the money."

ATLANTA, Ga., April 22.—L. L. Brown, who owns a large orchard of 24,000 trees, says his orchard has not been hurt. He is counting on a large yield. All peach growers agree on the fact that there are more buds and little peaches by far on the trees this year than have been since the year 1898, which was a recordbreaking peach year, about 1,000 cars being shipped from Fort Valley alone. It is prob-

able that 2,000 cars will be shipped from Fort Valley this year, which would be worth approximately \$1,000,000.

Dr. W. C. Wright is probably the largest individual grower in the state. He owns 1,630 acres of land, about 900 acres of which is in peach orchards. He has approximately 150,000 trees, and values his crop this year between \$50,000 and \$75,000.

SOUTHERN PROSPECTS.

Heavy Peach Crop Predicted--Conditions in Georgia, Texas, Mississippi, Florida and Other Southern States--Grape-Fruit, Oranges, Cantaloupes --Acreage.

JACKSONVILLE. Fla., April 20.—During the orange season just closing, W. R. Fuller & Co. have shipped 475 cars of oranges and grapefruit. They have about 25 cars more to move. The oranges have averaged the growers \$1.75 a box f. o. b., and on grape-fruit the prices varied, \$3.50 before Christmas, then \$4, and now \$5. Mr. Fuller is probably as close a student of the citrus fruit output of the state as any man in the business. His prediction for the season just closing was 1,650,000 boxes, and he will not miss it over 100,000 boxes. Mr. Fuller said while it was a little early he believed he could come very near it. "My lowest estimate," he said, "is 2,000,000 boxes. I believe we will reach 2,500,000 boxes, and it is possible it will go to 3,000,000. I consider the last figures as extreme. From this you will see that next season we will have about 2,500,000 boxes of oranges and grapefruit to market. I believe it is only a question of a few years when the west coast will furnish the majority of this fruit. Our trees are young yet. The grape-fruit is becoming so popular that it is impossible to tell its future. It is only a few years ago that commission men north wrote us not to ship any more of those yellow things, as the trade did not want them. To-day we cannot get enough to go

"Our fruit growers are aware of the advantage of growing grape-fruit, and are largely increasing the acreage. Some are putting out 300 and 400 acres of grape-fruit alone. Since it has been shown that budded grape-fruit would produce in three years, it is not so discouraging to start a grape-fruit orchard. In three more years I look for our grape-fruit shipments to equal or excel that of the oranges."

EL Paso, Tex., April 21.—The growing of cantaloupes seems to be attracting the attention of a good many people in the great Southwest. Since the barren deserts of Colorado and California have been irrigated and turned into profitable industry, it has set the people to thinking at Yuma, Arizona.

Jackson, Miss., April 21.—J. B. Yellowly, of Ridgeland, has 80 acres in peaches, 45 acres of which are bearing, and from which he expects to ship at least 10 or 12 carloads this spring and summer. J. W. McKay, of Madison Station, has a still larger orchard, and a large acreage in berries, and is one of the largest shippers in the state. These two gentlemen do not agree as to the condition or the promise of the berry crop, Mr. Yellowly stating that it is not more than 50 per cent. of what it should be because of the dry winter and the cold weather of a few days ago, Mr. McKay stating that it was an average crop.

If you like AMERICAN FRUITS send 50 cents by return mail and receive it regularly. Others do.



PLANT INTRODUCTION GARDEN.

Government Project for Chico, California-For Experimental Culture of Plants Introduced from Various Parts of the World--Most Favorable Location.

W. A. BEARD, SACRAMENTO, CAL.

The United States Department of Agriculture has decided to establish a Plant Introduction Garden and Experiment Station at Chico, California. Contracts for the necessary land have been closed and work has been begun on what will undoubtedly be the greatest institution of its kind in America and perhaps in the world. A beginning will be made with ninety acres, but it is the intention of the Department to extend the area as the needs of the institution require. The garden will be devoted to experimental culture of the plants introduced from various parts of the world and to a careful study of plant life.

Such an institution has long been contemplated by the Agricultural Department. California was selected for its location on account of climatic conditions which admit of the culture of tender plants from the tropics and of northern products as well. The ideal location for such an institution is that which admits of the successful cultivation of the widest possible range of products and the committee entrusted with the duty of selecting the site believe they have found it at Chico.

This committee was composed of Prof. P. H. Dorsett, government expert who will have charge of the institution, and Prof. A. V. Stubenrauch of the University of California, acting with Dr. A. J. Pieters, head of the division for seed and plant distribution. Messrs. Dorsett and Stubenrauch spent months in making a careful study of conditions affecting plant life in various portions of the state, visiting and carefully inspecting each locality likely to prove available. The dicision in favor of Chico was reached sometime ago, but the site selected could not be secured and another tract had to be chosen, which has now been done and the purchase consummated.

Chico is situated near the eastern border of the great Sacramento Valley, seventy-five miles north of Sacramento the state capital, and was the most northerly point considered by the committee. Climatic conditions in California are affected but little if at all by conditions of latitude, the orange, the lemon and the olive being staple products of a district that measures fully five hundred miles north and south.

J. G. Martine, representing the Sacramento Valley Development Association, is in St. Louis in charge of an exhibit by the Association of 2,700 jars of fruit, five car loads. The association has raised \$35,000 for the exhibit.

PACIFIC COAST NOTES.

Twenty-one train loads of oranges in twenty-eight days in March passed through Sacramento, Cal., en route for eastern points.

County Fruit Inspector Chamberlain, of Puyallup, Wash., announces that 20,000 fruit trees will be planted in Pierce county this year.

Yakima county, Wash., will plant half a million fruit trees this year. Last year 267,000 fruit trees were planted and the orchards cover 15,000 acres.

The California Fruit Growers Association has appointed H. P. Stabler chairman of a committee to

WOULD IMPROVE LEMON BUSINESS.

If reports from Italy are true that an agreement has been reached between importers of lemons and steamship companies, under which the latter will not speculate in lemons and that the former shall limit cargoes to 25,000 boxes, two important points have been gained in the rehabilitation of the lemon business in this country, says the New York Commercial. The next thing to be done is to stop the division of

Rochester Sithographing (c)
Rochester, My April 19, 1904.

American Pruits Publishing Co., City.

Gentlemen:

We received your first issue of "American Fruits", and we wish to compliment you on its appearance. It certainly reflects credit on the publishers.

We placed an advertisement in this initial number, and we presume you will be pleased to know it has brought us numerous inquiries for colored labels, etc., from various parts of the country. We are therefore inclined to continue our advertisement until further notice.

Wishing you success in the undertaking, we are, Yours truly.

Rochester Lithographing Co.

put into operation a plan for increasing the consumption of cured fruit of the state.

The Blalock Fruit Co., Walla Walla, Wash., is setting out 15.750 fruit trees, 14,000 of them prunes, on their College Place farm. In all, 25,000 trees will be set this spring, making 60,000 trees on this farm, the company having 44,000 bearing trees of all varieties.

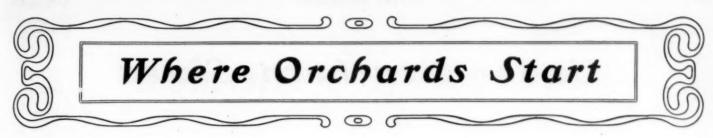
The Utah State Board of Horticulture finds that fruit trees when properly pruned and scraped and then given two thorough applications of a lime, salt and sulphur mixture, may be completely freed from the San Jose scale. With trees more than thirty years old it has been found cheaper to cut them out.

In testing the self-fertility of Old Mixon, Reeves, Elberta, Crawford Late, and Fox peaches the self-fertility of the blossoms was found to vary between 70 and 88 per cent., the average being 81 per cent. These fruits may, therefore, be planted in solid blocks without danger of reducing the set of heavy crops of fruit.

shipments, concentrating them all in this country, and the business will once more resume normal conditions.

Undoubtedly steamship companies have done much damage by speculating in lemons. They were able to bring the fruit here at relatively less cost than other importers.

With the steamships out of the business and importers in possession to regulate cargoes and arrivals, every one ought to make money. There is a good sale for Sicily lemons throughout the East, and all the territory west to Chicago can be supplied as well from New York as from Baltimore. The competition of other ports ought not to affect trade there. Hot weather is all that is required to bring out orders from all the cities in New York and the Middle West.



NURSERYMEN'S CONVENTION.

Annual Meeting in Atlanta Next Month Will Be Attended by Many of Most Prominent Men in the Business--Programme Committee at Work--Side Trips.

Preparations for making the annual convention of the American Association of Nurserymen in Atlanta, June 22d-24th, one of the most successful in the history of the organization are in progress. Reduced railroad rates have been obtained. Some of the nurserymen will go from New York to Savannah by boat. A party of eastern nurserymen will go via the Southern railway from Washington; others via Cincinnati.

Southern nurserymen are endeavoring to secure a large attendance from the southern states to welcome their northern brethren. The headquarters of the convention will be at the Hotel Piedmont, one of the finest hotels in the South. The programme committee is at work, and it is promised that the sessions will be unusually interesting.

Side trips to the nurseries and orchards of Georgia and Alabama will be made before and after the convention. Matters of legislation, insurance, transportation and pests will come before the association.

An effort will be made to have the convention of 1905 at Portland, Ore., upon the occasion of the Lewis and Clark exposition.

ADVANTAGES OF DWARF TREES.

Calling attention to the argument by George T. Powell of New York in favor of dwarf trees, American Gardening says: The present day tendency in cultural methods is leading us very surely towards a style of cultivation in the East that has been followed for years in the older parts of the world. It is not meant to suggest, however, that the American grower will find it worth his while to bother with the fantastic espaliers and cordons of the French gardener. The type of dwarf tree that Mr. Powell recommends for more general cultivation is one that is budded low down so that it produces a low head. In these days of increasing severity of insect attacks, the fruit grower will find the low-headed tree of almost inestimable advantage. Greater economy of labor in spraying (and also of the material used in the work) is insured by the planting of the low-headed tree; and in the harvest time, too, it does not need much experience to demonstrate the advantage of the dwarf tree.

On private estates, where the question of superior quality is really the only serious factor to be considered in the production of fruit, we cannot see that there is any argument to be made in favor of the standard tree as against the dwarf or low head. Speaking to an audience composed of those who were not concerned in commercial fruit growing, Mr. Powell urged the planting of dwarf trees upon every consideration. He gave it as his opinion that the pear orchards of the entire Hudson valley from New York city up to Albany were absolutely ruined as a result of the continued attacks of the pear psylla, all of which could have been saved, if the trees had been low

Hitherto, there has been considerable difficulty in procuring low-headed fruit trees in quantity, but the nurseryman will ever make it his business to supply what is demanded. A welcome change is noticeable in the fact that the leading nursery firms are prepared to fill orders for dwarf trees, and it is reasonable to expect that within a few years the dwarfheaded fruit tree will be the ordinary thing in all first-class country places, and in all probability, in commercial orchards, in the East, as well.

INFLUENCE OF STOCK ON SCION.

Every fruit grower knows one tree may bear more abundantly and better fruit than others of the same variety near it. Would anyone hesitate which tree to propagate from if he were growing the trees for his own orchard? asks a New Jersey correspondent in the Rural New Yorker. To be sure the buds from the nursery row may be but one generation from the bearing tree, but might not they be affected by disease of the stock upon which they were grown, or from other causes that did not affect the bearing tree from which they were originally taken? Has not the stock upon which the buds or scions are placed as much (or at least some) effect upon the bearing qualities of the tree as the buds and scions, or is it the buds and scions that have the entire effect on the fruiting?

In purchasing pits for the nursery row we cannot be absolutely sure they are from healthy trees. In case they were from unhealthy trees would not stock grown from such pits (even if budded or grafted with perfectly healthy buds and scions) affect the fruit or the fruiting quality of the trees, and would the tree be healthy and as long-lived? It is well known that many of the ailments of the human race are hereditary; do not the same laws govern the fruit world? If so, may not disease be conveyed to the tree as readily through the pit as through the bud?

It is estimated that the loss to fruit growers of the Hudson River valley, New York State, by reason of frost, will be very heavy.

THE NURSERY TRADE.

Conditions Throughout the Country as a Whole Normal and Satisfactory -- Prospects for Heavy Demand for Peach Trees Due to Outlook for Good Crops.

The nurserymen of the country report a generally satisfactory condition of trade for the season. The prospect for heavy peach crops in Georgia, Arkansas and East Texas is good, and if good prices are received by the orchardists there will be another heavy demand for peach trees from the nurserymen.

Owing to the scarcity of apple seed and the high price of labor there has not been a heavy planting of apple in western nurseries.

In Maryland there is a good prospect for fruit crops and other states report similar conditions. The late cold weather this spring, it is feared, has damaged fruit trees in many localities. At Rochester, N. V., for some time last month the mercury registered 25° and it was the coldest point in the country; but it was thought that fruit buds were not far enough advanced to be injured to great extent.

It seems to be the concensus of opinion among Geneva, N. Y., nurserymen that the sensitive species, such as peaches, sweet cherries and European plums, are damaged to an extent not far from 50 per cent. Beside the damage from frost, several of the nurserymen report considerable loss from field mice. Notwithstanding this condition, it is estimated that the Geneva nurseries, both wholesale and retail, will ship this year not far from four and a half million trees, shrubs and vines. It is also figured that these plants represent an aggregate business amounting to \$450,000.

THINNING APPLES.

Prof. S. A. Beach of the New York experiment station finds as a results of experiments in thinning apples, extending over a period of four years, that in seasons of heavy crops, thinning was found to heighten the color of both yellow and red fruits and to increase the size of the fruit. When only a small crop was set, thinning had no appreciable influence on either color or size. With Rhode Island Greening, which has a tendency to bear more regularly and produce smaller crops, the effect of thinning was less noticeable than with Baldwin and Hubbardston. As to the influence of thinning on the regularity of bearing, the experiments with all three varieties are fairly uniform in showing no material change in either the amount of fruit grown or the regularity of its production by thinning.

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Under Southern Skies

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IN THE ISLE OF PINES.

Remarkable Advantages of "The American District in Cuba"--Ideal Conditions for Fruit Growing--150,000 Orange and Grape Fruit Trees--Peculiarly Profitable Industry.

H. S. RISLEY, BUFFALO, N. Y.

One of the immediate results of the Spanish-American war was to attract to Cuba the attention of the enterprising American fruit growers; especially those whose experiences in Florida or California orange or grape-fruit growing had taught the value of a frostless locality and an adequate rainfall. For two years shrewd Florida and California growers traversed Cuba from Cape Mayasi to Cape Antonio, and it was difficult to say on what locality their choice would fall. Only since 1901 can it be said that the selection has been definitely made, though now the increasing influx of American settlers into the Isle of Pines has been so marked and their purchases of land so extensive, that that island can fairly be called "The American District of Cuba."

AN IDEAL CLIMATE.

Situated about thirty miles off the southern coast of Cuba, and distant about ninety miles by steamer and rail from Havana, the Isle of Pines possesses all the advantages of the semitropical Cuban climate, tempered, however, by the cool trade winds which sweep over from the great ocean plains to the south. Its greatest length from north to south is about thirty miles and from east to west about forty, its total superficial area being a trifle under 1,000 square miles, or about the size of the state of Rhode Island. It is traversed from north to south by two ranges of low but precipitous hills springing abruptly from the level plain which composes the larger area of the island. Under Spanish rule it was always considered as a summer and health resort, and a hospital was maintained there for the Spanish troops exhausted by service in Cuba. Yellow fever or cholera, even when raging in Cuba, were absolutely unknown here.

The soil, a loose grey loam mixed with humus, was not so well adapted for sugar culture as the heavy red and black lands of Cuba, and as fruit culture, for which these lands are particularly suited, was not encouraged by the dominant Spanish population, but little development took place in the Isle of Pines.

The visiting American horticulturists and farmers, however, found the conditions for the establishment of a fruit industry ideal. With a temperature ranging from 58 to 90 degrees and a dependable rainfall of 50 inches a year, with admirable harbors from which shipments could be made, either through Cuba to Havana

and thence to the northern markets in four days, or direct to Mobile, Ala., in three days, it only required the application of American push and energy to create in the Isle of Pines the fruit industry of Florida and California. Such opportunities were not allowed to lie undeveloped.

MOSTLY IN AMERICAN HANDS.

For the past two years the American settlers have been constantly increasing until to-day about three-fourths of the acreage of the island has passed into American hands, and it is estimated that 150,000 orange and grape-fruit trees have been set out, besides a profitable winter vegetable and tobacco culture inaugurated by the American population.

One of the best known of the corporations undertaking this work is the Tropical Development Company of Buffalo, N. Y., which is commencing the cultivation of a 500 acre orange and grape-fruit grove, and the establishment of an American community in one of the most desirable sections of the island.

INCREASED PEACH ACREAGE.

Chattanooga, Tenn., April 15.—There are more peach trees in this section than there has ever been. The farmers through North Georgia, especially on the lines of the Chattanooga Southern and the Central of Georgia, have been devoting their attention for several



A TWO-YEAR-OLD GRAPE FRUIT TREE

As there are no cold months in winter nor drouth periods in summer, when the growth of trees is retarded, the increase in the size of trees is phenomenal. Though only two years old, the grape-fruit tree above shows a development seldom attained in Florida under four to five years. Oranges and grape-fruit will ripen much earlier in the Isle of Pines than in any northern district, and experienced growers predict that the early Florida orange crop (which finding the market empty brings such high prices) can be easily forestalled by the Isle of Pines fruit. A freight rate of 48 cents per box on oranges and grape-fruit to New York renders the industry peculiarly profitable, and enables the Isle of Pines grower to compete successfully with the Florida and California product.

The work of development is being systematically forwarded both by individuals and well-equipped companies, and a brilliant future is anticipated by all interested in citrus culture in the Isle of Pines.

years to planting a large number of trees, and it is estimated that the number is three times as great as it was four years ago. It is stated that fully 40 per cent. of the yield will be from trees which this year bear their first fruit.

EAST CAROLINA ASSOCIATION.

WILMINGTON, N. C., April 13.—The executive committee of the East Carolina Truck and Fruit Growers Association has decided to have a representative at New York, Washington and Pittsburg this season. The greatest increase in strawberry acreage is said to be in the Chadbourn section, notably on the Conway branch, where a comparatively new territory is being developed. A very good increase in the growing of dewberries is also reported from the Chadbourn section. Many of the berry plants are in bloom and the movement of the crop is expected to begin in earnest about April 20th.

2000

Dominion of Canada



IN WESTERN CANADA.

Marked Awakening of Interest in Tree Planting--Government Ald--Standard Apples Successfully Grown--Red River Valley a Favorable Fleld--Settlers' Movement.

A. P. Stevenson, of Nelson, Manitoba, has reported to the committee on agriculture and colonization at Ottawa, that there has been a marked awakening of interest among the farmers of Western Canada on the subject of tree planting. The forestry department supplies every farmer who takes the trouble properly to prepare the ground, with 1,300 trees, sufficient to plant half an acre.

Mr. Stevenson related the results of many years' experience in horticultural operations in Manitoba, where he has successfully grown fruit of various kinds, including standard apples. Owing to climatic conditions, he had not, he said, met with success in the cultivation of Ontario-grown apple trees. He urged that a shelter belt is necessary where it is desired to cultivate fruit. The Red River Valley is the most favorable field for fruit growing in the province.

A despatch from St. Paul, Minn., states that the settlers' movement to the Canadian Northwest has started this spring in real earnest and every advertised excursion for Canada has been a great success. One day's trains for points in Western Canada carried hundreds from southern points, Oklahoma contributing in large numbers. Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Illinois were represented by the most sturdy and wealthiest class of settlers that ever passed through St. Paul. T. O. Carrie had a large party from Wisconsin bound for points in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Special trains are also leaving from South Dakota, while orders are lying in the hands of the railroad companies for cars for settlers' effects, which make over a score of special through trains within two weeks. The agents of the government report that there never was as much interest taken in Western Canada as at the present time.

CHOICE APPLES IN SMALL BOXES.

The Mercur Packing Company, at Wolcott, N. Y., has leased warehouses at Red Creek and Wolcott. The dealers this year will adopt a new departure in packing evaporated apples. The prime stock will be packed in fifty-pound boxes, while the choice and fancy fruit will be put up in paper cartons, each variety of apples bought being kept in separate bins, and packed in three, five and ten-pound boxes, under label. Previously all apples have been shipped from Wolcott in fifty-pound boxes, the fruit being of different varieties.

CO-OPERATIVE SHIPPING IN CANADA

TORONTO, April 18.—The Dominion Department of Agriculture is at work among fruit growers diffusing information. P. J. Casey, Dominion fruit inspector, stopped here on his way home to Ottawa from Western Ontario, where he has been attending a series of fruit institute meetings. He reports that while in many sections the farmers have displayed a lack of interest in the care of their orchards, due largely to the present unsatisfactory system of marketing, which gives little encouragement to orchardists, new interest has been aroused by the movement now on foot to promote a better method of handling fruit. The central packing house system of co-operative shipping has been adopted, and local associations are being formed to carry on the work. Another thing which tends to stimulate fruit growing by farmers is the fact that although last year's crop was an enormous one, the fruit found a ready market at high prices. The European markets last year took three and a half million barrels of apples, and large shipments were also sent to the Northwest. Mr. Carey is satisfied that there is no danger from overproduction, provided the fruit is of good quality, and properly and honestly packed.

HANDICAPPED IN SHIPMENTS.

Fruit growers of the Niagara peninsula waited upon Mr. Emmerson, the minister of railways at Ottawa, last month, and complained that they were handicapped in sending small fruits to points in the Maritime providences because the Dominion Express Companies could not get running powers over the Intercolonial railway.

The growers gave valuable information regarding the development of the Ontario fruit trade with Eastern providences, and showed how greatly it could be improved if the facilities asked for were granted.

Mr. Emmerson said he warmly sympathized with the desire of the fruit men to build up an inter-provincial trade. The agreement made with the Canadian Express company, giving a monopoly of running rights over the Intercolonial railway, expires next December, and in the meantime he would give the question careful consideration.

Among the firuit growers present were: Rev. W. J. Andrews, Wm. Frells, Sol. Kettenhouse, C. M. Wisner, Jordan; W. H. Bunting, St. Catharines; James N. Aikens, T. F. Best, Joseph H. Burns, G. N. Bernard, John Camocbar, Niagara; J. W. Smith, Major F. M. Carpenter, Eland Lee, Winona; A. H. Pettit, C. W. Vanduser, H. K. Griffith, H. H. Anderson, Grimsby, and W. G. Hnnt, Ottawa.

GOVERNMENT TO GIVE TREES.

New Brunswick Plan to Extend Fruit Industry --Owner of Land Can Have Entire Proceeds upon Promising to Care for Trees for Ten Years.

The government of New Brunswick, through the Department of Agriculture, is preparing to operate a number of orchards with the object of encouraging and bettering the fruit industry in that Province. The idea is to have one orchard in every county. The government will furnish the trees and send a man to direct the proper planting and laying out of the orchard. Mostly winter varieties of trees will be planted, and the efforts confined almost wholly to apples and plums.

The trees being properly set out, the owner of the land must sign an agreement that he will attend to the orchard for ten years according to instructions issued him. He will be allowed the entire receipts of the enterprise. The orchards will be from 1 to 2 acres in extent, and be composed of 50 to 100 trees. These will be set in rows, 30 feet apart. On each side of the row a space 7½ feet in width will be kept absolutely free from growth and cultivated from time to time. In the fall a cover growth of clover will be planted on this strip.

CANADIAN GROWERS COMBINE.

Apple growers in the counties of Middlesex and Huron, Ont., have formed a society to protect their interests, with H. B. Kennedy as president, and A. D. Telfee secretary. They complain of unsatisfactory dealings with buyers, and also with shipping to the English market. It is thought the movement will extend to all the fruit districts of the province.

CANADIAN NOTES.

The growth of settlement in Canada is well illustrated by the fact that forty-seven new postoffices were established in Canada on April 1st last. Of these twenty-seven were in Manitoba or the Territories.

Fruit growers of Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island have all adopted a uniform case 10x11x20 inches, inside measurements, for the shipment of apples. A case half this size is found a very suitable package for pears.

Prof. W. T. Macoun has issued a popular bulletin on plum culture, dealing with methods of propagation-preparation of the soil and particulars as to planting and subsequent care of the trees. Lists are given of varieties most suitable for the different fruit districts in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, and descriptions given of 38 American, 34 European, and 4 Japanese sorts. A popular paper on fertilizers for the plum orchard, by F. T. Shutt, is included in the bulletin, and another of like nature on plum insects, by J. Fletcher. Notes are also given on canning and preserving American plums.

American Fruit Abroad

2000

BRITISH COLUMBIA FRUIT.

Finds Ready Market in Great Britain--One Month in Transport--Hardy Apples from the Okanagan Valley of Central British Columbia.

There have been this season three separate trial consignments to this country of British Columbia apples, in cases weighing from 35 to 40 pounds, says the London, Eng., Fruiterer. Two of these consignments were on private account and the other was received by the agent-general for British Columbia in London. Each of these lots of apples has turned out well, and in point of condition and appearance, although perhaps not quite perfect, far in advance of what would have been expected of such fruit but a short time back. But the growers in that part of the world, as elsewhere, have come to understand what is required to make their produce acceptable and saleable in the British markets.

The two small shipments each of 500 cases (equal to an American carload), which were sent on private account, realized, we understand, excellent prices. It is gratifying to us at all times to acquaint market salesmen of the source of fresh supplies of produce and particularly when these are within the bounds of our empire. In this regard, therefore, the outlook for a continuance of the supplies to which we are accustomed seems increasingly sure from the fact that British Columbia will, in seasons to come, be ready to meet a portion of our omnivorous requirements.

The harder sorts of apples which were sent, such as Spitzenburgh, Vandevere, Bailey Sweet and Talman Sweet, were grown at Lytton, at the junction of the Thompson and Fraser rivers and the Okanagan valley in Central British Columbia, and the softer varieties which were unfortunately sent unnamed (one of which was comparable with our own Peasgood Nonsuch), were grown on Vancouver Island.

When it is remembered that this fruit can be delivered in London within a month after shipment in British Columbia, there is good prospect for large sendings, although these would, of course, have to meet competition from American supplies. It is not to be expected that the shipments will be immediately large, as the bulk of the fruit at present grown is readily disposed of in the mining towns of British Columbia and in the great wheat-growing districts of the northwest territories; but any new colonial source of supply is a matter for congratulation.

Floyd Thorn, who is with P. Gleason, Le Roy, N.Y., says Mr. Gleason has 14,000 barrels of fine apples in Brighton cold storage awaiting shipment in May.

LEMON MARKET IN FAR EAST.

Los Angeles, April 21.—San Francisco is 30 days from Australia. The cost of placing large, well-packed shipments of lemons in Melbourne, including local freight, ocean freight, packing, tariff and commission, is \$2.50 a box, as against the \$1.65, freight packing and selling charges to an eastern town. Summer prices rule during the months when our winter prices rule. Their average price is about 25 shillings (\$6) per box during the time our average price is \$2.10. Lemon growers of Southern California are beginning to awaken to the possibilities of an extensive market for their produce in the Far East.

FOREIGN NOTES.

A fruit growers' congress will be held this year by South African orchardists.

The exportation of fruits and nuts from this country has increased five fold in ten years. The total value of such exports last year reached \$19,839,107, and apples alone coutributed \$7,758.908.

Strassburg, Germany, dealers say they intend visiting California during the spring and coming summer, for the purpose of becoming better acquainted with good houses and to make contracts for next winter's purchases. The fruit is highly spoken of, both as regards quality and method of packing.

In consequence of the manner in which Ca'ifornia fruits are dried, says an American consul in Germany, I would suggest that the shippers prepare brief instructions for cooking them, and that they place in each case of fruit a slip containing the instructions. For the German trade the instructions should be printed in German.

The United States consul in Edinburgh records the fact that Canadian apple imports are gaining a very strong position in Scotch markets. In some cases they displace United States supplies. The system of inspection adopted in Canada and subsequently renewed at British ports has served as a guaranty to buyers of Canadian fruit.

Imports of American apples at Hamburg during the last four months of 1903 were over 100,000 barrels. The total value of imports of foreign fruits and preserves into Germany amounted to \$16,600,000, in round numbers. It is said Berlin alone used an average of 5,000 tons of fresh American apples and upwards of 18,000 tons of evaporated apples.

A report from Christchurch, New Zealand, under date of February 17th says that the crop of stone fruits was very heavy this season, and plums in particular have been very plentiful. Apricots are not offering so freely as of late, and peaches are scarce. The crops of apples and pears promise to be very good. G. Leiz of Bunnythorpe has a yield of two tons of strawberries.

George F. Morris has retired from the firm of Protheroe and Morris, the horticultural auctioneers of Cheapside, E. C., and Leytonstone, England. Mr. Morris has been connected with the firm fifty-eight years, although for the last ten years he has left its management entirely to the remaining four partners, Messrs. H. G. Morris, J. B. Slade, T. A. Morris and A. F. Protheroe, who will continue the basiness as heretofore.

CAPE COLONY FRUITS.

Their Increasing Popularity in British Markets Indicates Lively Competition for American Growers--Need for Highest Quality Products from this Country.

That there is likely to be lively competition for the American fruit growers and shippers who would supply the British market is shown in an interesting review of fruit conditions in Great Britain by Sampson Morgan in the African Review of London.

The supplies of South African fruits have been varied this season, says Mr. Morgan. Their quality is beyond question. If the peaches shipped were, however, twice their present size, they would meet a free sale at prices 50 per cent. higher than those now prevailing. The demand in the London market for large peaches of best quality, whether early or late, is always good. Giant specimens of English forced peaches, weighing from 6 to 8 ounces each, often sell in June from 15 to 21 shillings a dozen. In May they realize from 21 to 30 shillings. Size and color are the two chief factors in the market sale of peaches. The Cape William pear has done wonderfully well this spring in London. Without doubt it is the finest fruit of its class which enters our ports. In both quality and appearance it surpasses the best that are imported either from Paris or San Francisco. These William Bon Chrétiens come in at a time when a delicate ripe pear can be appreciated. The Cape William is the choicest dainty in the fresh fruit line on sale. It has sold as high as 10 shillings 6 pence a case. A very extensive business ought to be developed in the English markets for this fruit. We receive large consignments of Paris Williams in the season. The French agents send 10,000 boxes of these fruits to Covent Garden week after week.

THE BARTLETT PEAR EXCELLED.

William Bon Chrétien is shipped from California to London under the name of Bartlett in 5,000 and 10,000 boxes at a time. But the California Bartlett has not the flavor of the Cape William, neither has it that delicate skin which the latter possesses, and which gives it the appearance of a hot-house fruit. Cape Williams ought to be found on sale in every large city throughout the United Kingdom during the first four months of the year.

Of the other varieties I inspected in Covent Garden I was particularly impressed with the appearance of Doyenne du Comice and the Louise Bonne. The first named is magnificent. I am satisfied that if the Cape fruit growers paid special attention to its culture for export they could ship supplies of mammoth fruits, because specimens have been grown in England which weighed from to to 14 ounces

and finest pear in cultivation. Cape fruit merchants will do well to pay much attention to the claims of this pear. Louise Bonne is a very handsome and excellent variety, and though I do not consider it comparable to the Doyenne du Comice or William's Bon Chrétien, yet it has sold well here this year. Cape Easter Buerrés were of prime quality. I saw some very fine boxes containing sixteen fruits each which had made from 5 to 8 shillings the box. A pear that will command 6 shillings a dozen in March, though it has been shipped a distance of 6,000 miles, will, nevertheless, yield abundant profits.

LARGE-SIZED FRUITS DESIRED.

When the question of size in connection with South African fruits is considered, it will be seen that seconds or medium-sized samples fail to make prices in any way proportionate to those which rule for full-sized fruits. Alexander and Hale's Early are the two largest and mostly highly-colored peaches forced in England. When the Cape shippers send kindred fruits to Covent Garden market, put up in boxes holding twelve fruits each, they will give a great impetus to the demand, and at the enhanced prices referred to. I would urge upon growers the necessity for increasing the size of the peaches and nectarines they consign to London. This season the Cape shippers sent a large cargo of fresh fruits to New York. They will find that the demand there is very similar to what it is here, and that before top prices can be relied upon in either

each. For commercial growers it is the largest *center the size of the fruits must be increased. I have watched the disposal of Cape fruits in the market, and found that lower prices were asked for some of the peaches than for Louise Bonne pears. In fruit-trade circles high quality peaches are expected to bring much more money than pears. That this difference was due to the diminutive proportions of the peach fruits is beyond doubt.

POINTERS FOR GROWERS.

I lay much stress upon this point because the future success of the Cape peach trade depends to a very great extent upon the size of the fruits that are marketed. In this case the expansion of the fruit can be regulated by the grower. The fruit tree is a machine with which we can do almost as we please. I suspect that the want of moisture after the young fruits have set is the chief cause of the trouble. Commercial growers should study to facilitate the swelling-out of the fruits to the largest size possible. In most cases, when the trees root into a good soil, pollination to ensure free setting first, and moisture at the roots after, provided large-fruiting varieties are grown, will procure a good crop of largestsized fruits.

CANNED FRUIT SITUATION FIRM.

The situation on all kinds of canned fruits in England and on the continent is very firm. It is probable that apricots and pears will be cleaned up before the new crop in California

will be available in the English market. Canned peaches have not been so active as was expected, and it is possible there will be a slight carry-over on this variety. The imports amount to over 600,000 cases of all kinds of fruit, and while consumers there last year took a large quantity the markets were bare of stock when the first of the new fruit arrived.

CALIFORNIA FRUITS IN ENGLAND.

Regarding California products in Great Britain, a writer in the New York Commercial says: "When we consider that French prunes can be bought and delivered in two weeks after purchase it means much to the California prune hampered by delays and long time in transit. With a good crop of French prunes there would be little demand for California stock under the existing conditions. Prunes to sell well should be shipped early enough to insure their arrival in the English and European markets as long a time before Christmas as possible.

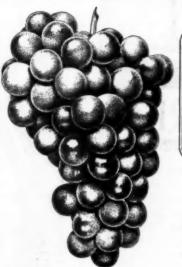
"In this connection there is a movement on foot among the English jobbers to have a stipulation in the contracts providing for delivery on board steamer in New York on a certain date instead of on board cars f. o. b. California. Agents of California packers are combating this movement very strongly because of the element of risk and incentive to speculation in the proposed new contract."

THE McKINLEY EARLY GRAPE

THE McKinley Early Grape is a cross between Niagara and Moore's Early, and is fully ten days earlier than the Niagara. The bunches are very large and compact, very sweet with no puckery taste in the skin. It is the early white grape for market.

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STRONG PLANTS



T has very remarkable keeping qualities, hangs on vines sound and perfect for six weeks or more after ripening, with no tendency to shell off or fall from

As good a shipper as any other American grape.

We offer 65,000

Strong Concord Grapes

ALSO 47 OTHER VARIETIES AT LOW PRICES.

CURRANTS (One Year) 50,000

FAY. VICTORIA.

CHERRY. LA VERSAILLES.

RED CROSS. NORTH STAR.

POMONA. BLACK CURRANT,

100,000

(WOOD) CUTHBERT RASPBERRY

WOOD'S SMALL FRUITS

are healthy, well rooted and are bred with atrongest fruiting qualities. I make a of Strawberries, Blackberries, Raspberries, Currants, Grapes, Apples, Pears, eaches, Cherries, Quinces, etc. Do not place an order until you have my free ruit Catalogue. Also ask for free circular of Twelve Special Bargain Offers of uit Groups for every garden, at reduced prices.

ALLEN L. WOOD,

WHOLESALE GROWER,

ROCHESTER, N. Y.



In Commission Circles



WESTERN PINEAPPLE TRADE.

Favorably Affected By the Enterprise of Mills Brothers, Chicago -- Trainload From Cuba in Four and One-Half Days--Competing with New York.

Mills Brothers, of Chicago, says the Packer, have succeeded in bringing a trainload of pineapples from Cuba to Chicago in 4 days and 14½ hours, beating the mail service by nearly a day. They were instrumental in having the fast Munson liner Mobile put into service.

Up to three years ago the only market available for Cuban pineapples was New York, with its immediate territory. The consequent dumping at the height of the season at New York twice a week of the entire output made this business a precarious one at best.

In 1901 the Munson Mobile-Havana line bid for a share of this business. It was an up-hill fight to contend with the prestige of more than three years' control of the trade by New York commission merchants and steamship lines. The movement, modest at first, grew year after year and Mills Brothers deserve great credit for opening up new territory for Cuba.

PENINSULA PACKERS ACT.

C. R. Jones, of Georgetown, Del., after a meeting of canners and packers of the peninsula, said: "We have concluded that no more 'soup' shall be packed in cans and sent out from here labeled 'tomatoes.' We have about decided on a basis of weight of the goods, on the exclusion of water, and on the purity of the contents of every can. We will be supported by the national pure food laws, which we spent the day in discussing.

"This business of pumping into cans of goods what an undertaker pumps into a dead man, for the purpose of preservation or high coloring, will also stop. We are determined that goods that go out from this state and peninsula shall be absolutely pure and unadulterated."

Seven dollars a ton is to be the average paid for tomatoes delivered at the factories this summer: 2 cents per pound for peas and \$7.50 per ton for corn on the cob.

HALE BRANCHES OUT.

Georgia and Connecticut Fruit Grower will Enter Pittsburg Market Through A. F. Young & Co.--Same Firm will Handle Product of Allegheny Orchard Co., Romney, W. Va.

PITTSBURG, April 19.—A. F. Young & Co., commission merchants, this season will handle large quantities of peaches for J. H. Hale, the well-known grower of South Gastonbury, Conn., and Fort Valley, Ga. The Alleghany Orchard Company, at Romney, W. Va., has also placed its Pittsburg account with A. F. Young & Company which has handled its New York shipments for some time. The Alleghany Orchard Company grows peaches and plums in large quantities. Pittsburg is an important distributing center. Eastern growers are learning the value of carlot consignments to such points with a view to reaching westward.

The pathologist of the department of agriculture after studying the effects of the winter's low temperatures on fruit trees in the eastern and New England States reports that the damage is probably not more than ten to twenty per cent. of trees killed.

ORCHARD AND PARK



SPRAYING RIG

OTHING short of the strictly power outfits approaches the efficiency of this hand power sprayer. Operating the "Hydraplex" Pump is like play. A boy easily Keeps a Dozen Nozzles Going, spraying 200 trees an hour. Brass working parts avoid corrosion. Valves and packing all exposed. Delivers spray as fog or mist and works at Highest Pressure. Sold separately or with our cypress 150 gallon tank, dirt proof, with outside strainer and mechanical agitator. May be used with any tank or barrel. The Only Hand Power Sprayer for Large Operations. We manufacture the largest line in America of high-grade and power sprayers.

Write for free Catalogue of all Sprayers and Appliances.

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Be sure you get The Reiter as it has many features entirely its own and is without doubt the best in the world.

Order from your dealer or direct giving capacity required and the width between the bolster standards.

THEY SAVE

YOUR FRUIT

YOUR PRODUCE

> YOUR WAGON

YOUR HORSES

YOUR HARNESS

AND YOURSELF

Manufactured Exclusively by

Pittsburg Bolster Spring Co.

Box 1083 PITTSBURG, PA.

Please mention AMERICAN FRUITS when writing to advertisers.

ARKANSAS CONVENTION.

PARAGOULD, ARK., April 25.—A convention of fruit growers of Greene county is to be held here April 30th to organize a fruit growers association and to discuss cold storage for

Fruit growing in Greene county promises to be the leading industry of the county within the next ten years. Already the orchard product has gone beyond the demands of the local market and new orchards are being planted all over the county. Our apple product is as fine as can be shown in any country and there is no longer any question of the adaptability of the soil of the county to fruit culture. The people are very much interested and the serious problem that confronts them is how to preserve the fruit and market it to the best advantage. With a cold storage in Paragould thousands of barrels can be stored away to await favorable conditions of the market and it is incumbent upon the business men and capitalists of this county to provide the necessary building for such storage. The Crystal Ice Company owns one of the finest ice plants in the South and could no doubt be induced to add a cold storage.

Aside from a cold storage it is about time for our fruit growers to begin to discuss evaporators, hundreds of which are in operation in the northwestern portion of the state, where fruit culture overshadows everything else and where we find more genuine prosperity among the farming class than in any other

section of the state. A canning factory would also be an important industry in connection with the cultivation of fruits and vegetables. These industries are bound to come as a result of the development of the fruit growing industry of this section.

CONNECTICUT FRUITS.

Apples are the leading fruit in Connecticut, the total acreage being 4,717.25. Peach s follow, with 3,616 acres; and then strawberries, with 445.67 acres. Next in importance stand Japanese plums, with a total of 262.8 acres. Commercial peach growing is shown to have developed rapidly during the past ten years, the total area devoted to peaches in 1892 being 730 acres with a yield of 40,603 bushels, as compared with an area of 3,616 acres and a yield of 312,174 bushels

The last census report shows that Georgia had 2,359,975 apple trees, producing 670,889 bushels. The peach trees numbered 7,668,639, representing 259,728 bushels; cherry trees, 115,092; pear trees, 385,166.

In 1899 Georgia led the United States in the number of peach trees, though Michigan shows 8,104.415 But these last figures include the nectarine, and Georgia has few of these. The seven states, relative to the number of peach trees in 1899, rank as follows: Michigan, 8,104.415; Georgia, 7,668,639; California, 7,472,393; Texas, 7,248,358; Ohio, 6,363,-127; Kansas, 5,098,c64; Missouri, 4,557,365.

NEW FRUIT COMPANIES.

Mobile Fruit Package Co., Mobile, Ala.

Fairfield, Me., Fruit Growers Association, \$5,000. G. B. Wing, G. I. Tibbetts.

Barberton, O., Canning Co., \$20,000. G. Saiberling, H. K. Killian, C. M. Karch.

Blue Ridge Beverage and Extract Co., Anderson, S. C., \$15,000. J. F. McClure.

Beaver County, Okla., Melon Growers Association, \$1,000. S. J. Crane, J. W. Harris.

Stahl Orchard Co., Quincy, Ill., \$20,000. Incorporators, G. W. Govert, P. B. Williams, W. H. Govert.

Pacific Cranberry Marsh, Long Beach, Wash. In-corporators, J. M. Arthur, Dorsey B. Smith, A. A.

Norton Fruit Growers Association of Muskegon county, Mich., \$5.000. W. H. Patten, G. E. Randen, E. I. Ruusell.

Henderson County Fruit Growers, \$2,500. C. F. McHaney, E. F. Boswell, E. T. Flake, J. D. Muse, P. O. Roberts.

Co-operative Trepical Fruit Association, East Orange, N. J. \$500,000. N. Clyde, Fred L. Palmer and Charles O. Geyer.

The Geroe Company, Toledo, O. \$500;000. William B. Geroe, H. A. Hendricks, George A. Vanderbeck, Frank W. Mertes, Clarence Brown.

Costa Rico Banana Co., at San Francisco and Guthrie. \$500,000. J. A. Alexander and J. E. Nicholson, of San Francisco; G. V. Pattison, of Guthrie, Okla.

Wilmer, Ala., Canning Co., to operate a 7,000 twopound can factory. Henry Lewis, I. Brannon. Joseph Brannon, W. M. Pierce, T. J. Howell, J. W. Cooper.

J. B. Graves Fruit Farm Co., Neosho, Mo., \$15,000. Incorporators, Elmer A. Perry and Herbert A. Perry, of Springfield, Ill.; J. B. Graves, Rosalie Graves and Mand Mitticks.

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CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

Growers Organize Viticultural Club--Legislation Needed--As to Government Tests--Purpose of Pure Wine Bill--Overproduction--Club Officers.

Los Angeles, April 18.—Grape growers of California have organized the California Viticultural club, with these officers: President, John Swett of Martinez; first vice-president, Burton A. Towne of Lodi; second vice-president, John Markley of Geyserville; secretarytreasurer, Professor E. H. Twight of Berkeley. Among the prominent members are Percy T. Morgan, president of the California Wine Association; P. C. Rossi, president of the Italian-Swiss colony; Andrea Sharboro, of San Francisco; William Maitland, of Santa Cruz county.

Percy T. Morgan spoke for organization of the grape growers. He said certain legislation is needed; also harmony between the wine men and the vineyardists. He suggested that vineyardists must not look entirely to winemaking as an outlet; when there are big yields they must depend some on raisins and cream of tartar to consume grapes. California has use and markets for only about 30,000,000 gallons of wine a year, and when there is an output in big years of more than 40,000,000 gallons there will be overproduction.

P. C. Rossi spoke for organization. He said that last year Sonoma county alone produced between 11,000,000 and 12,000,000 gallons of dry wines, and that not a pound of sugar or a gallon of water was used in the output last season.

Professor G. C. Husman, of the Department of Agriculture in Washington, sent here to establish and supervise experimental stations at Oakville in Napa county, Fresno in Fresno county, and Cucamonga in San Bernardino county, said that the government had secured about twenty acres at each of these different vineyard sections to make tests of varieties of vines to determine which are best suited to soil and climate and which are proof against phylloxera and the Anaheim disease. From these stations free cuttings would be supplied to vineyardists with the request that they cooperate in determining the results. tests in California were for the whole United

William Maitland said that there is less acreage in vines than twenty years ago, but much more wine produced in California. Others disputed the acreage assertion and cited instances of hundreds of acres of new plantings. Mr. Maitland said that he personally had seen sugar by the carload taken to the wineries in this state, and he knew that much fake wine had been made by adding sugar and water to the pomace or residue after the wine is pressed from grapes and skins. Each addition of sugar and water causes a fresh reaction and produces another

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batch of wine, so that sometimes three or four or five sets of wines are secured after the first press of real grape juice. This is what is aimed against in the pure wine bill now before congress.

Professor Twight explained that in Germany and France the governments permit the addition of sngar under proper inspection wherever the grape tests show that they are below the required 20 per cent. sugar necessary to produce a sound wine.

ORTIZ FRUIT FARM ASSIGNMENT.

Mexico, Mo., April 15.-C. F. Clark, assignee for Butler M. Guthrie, who made an assignment on April 5th, says every creditor will receive 100 cents on the dollar. The assets are estimated at \$160,000.

Mr. Guthrie is well known in Missouri as the proprietor of the Ortiz fruit farm in this county, as well as a breeder of fine dogs and cattle. He assigns all of the property and also property in Topeka, Kan., and a thousand acres of Audrain county land. The assignment was a surprise, as he was considered one of the most wealthy men in Northern Missouri.

NORTH CAROLINA PROJECT.

Augusta, Ga., April 12.-W. B. Ellis, a prominent peach grower of Fort Valley, Ga., has sold his interests there and has bought a large acreage at Woodside, N. C., where he has planted 10,000 peach trees and 15 acres of dewberries. Next year he expects to increase the dewberry acreage to 50. He intends to plant pears, plums and other fruit. The country about Woodside is largely undeveloped, but should this venture prove successful there is strong probability that important interests will make large investments

CHANCE FOR MEXICAN GROWERS.

MEXICO CITY, Mexico, April 9.- The demand for bananas has greatly increased during the past few months all over the United States. The bananas imported from Cuba, Honduras, Costa Rica, and other South American countries are not enough to fill the demand, because factories are beginning to use bananas for the manufacture of some products for which flour had hitherto been used. This is good news for agriculturists of the hot country, where bananas can be produced in enormous quantities, of good quality and at very low cost.

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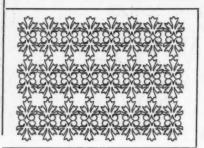
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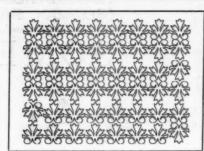
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